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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masson et al.

Serial. No: 09/759,057

Examiner:

Peter D. Mulcahy

Filed: January 12, 2001

Group Art Unit:

1713

For:

RUBBER COMPOSITION USABLE IN THE VULCANIZED
STATE AS A TIRE SAFETY SUPPORT AND SUCH A SUPPORT-E.A. 9
5/17/03
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APR 14 2003
GROUP 1700INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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April 8, 2003

Date of Deposit

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Patent Reg. No.

April 8, 2003

Date of Signature

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of
the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449 and respectfully request that
the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-
captioned application. Copies of the documents are enclosed. A copy of the Search Report
for FR 0000427, with an English description of the definitions of the categories attached
thereto, is also enclosed.

04/11/2003 JBALINAM 00000074 09759057

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This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events cited in Section 1.97(b), but to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c) this IDS is accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p).

Japanese Publication No. JP-A-3/82601, which is discussed on page 2 of the instant specification, corresponds to JP Application No. 01-219438 (JP 89219438). A corresponding English abstract is enclosed.

FR 2,720,977, which is discussed on page 18 of the instant specification, corresponds to US 5,836,366. An English abstract is associated with French language WO 99/28376, which is discussed on page 8 of the instant specification.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited document(s) do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If any additional fee is required in connection with the submission of this paper, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees,

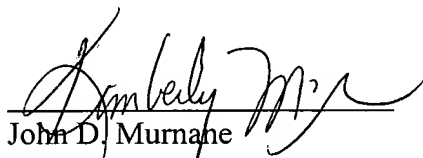
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or credit or any overpayments made, to Deposit Account 02-4377. Duplicate copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

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